Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States

Brought to you by your Diversity and Communications Committee

Why May?

May commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese to the US in May 1843.

Courtesy of Wikipedia.com, Photograph by Andrew J. Russell.

It is the anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869 in which most workers were Chinese immigrants.

www.infoplease.com/spot/asianintro1.html

Famous Firsts by Asian Americans

Norman Yoshio Mineta became mayor for San Jose, CA in 1971.

Katherine Sui Fun Cheung, in 1932, received her aviators license.

In 1964 Patsy Takemoto Mink, elected into congress as a representative from Hawaii.

1951, Anna May Wong, was host of her own network TV series, *"The Gallery of Madame Liu Tsong"*

Astronaut, Ellison Onizuka, had first spaceflight in 1985 then died in 1986 in Challenger disaster.

http://www.infoplease.com/spot/apahmfirsts.html

History of Tea

"More tea is consumed around the world than any beverage except water. Photo Credit: Arttoday.com"

"In prehistoric China tea was probably used as a relish and as a medicine. Tea was first brewed as a medicine around 2700 B.C. in the western mountains of China. Tea was likely seen as healthy in part because it was made with boiled water, which is safer to drink in an area of contaminated water."

http://www.infoplease.com/spot/tea1.html

David Johnson

What is Feng Shui?

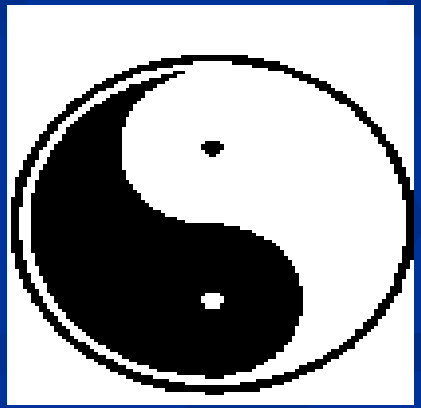
"As Asian culture becomes more popular in the United States, the ancient Chinese method of creating a harmonious environment, *feng shui*, is also gaining ground."

"Pronounced "fung shway," feng shui literally means "wind and water." Its roots are 5,000 years old."

"Feng shui seeks to promote prosperity, good health, and general well being by examining how energy, *qi*, pronounced "chee," flows through a particular room, house, building, or garden."

For the 13 Feng Shui Tips for a balanced house please visit:

http://www.infoplease.com/spot/fengshui2.html



The Fortune Cookie

“The first fortune cookies reached Chinese shores in 1892. They were imported from Brooklyn and were proudly advertised as "genuine American fortune cookies."

Like chop suey, fortune cookies are an American invention. They originated in California, but who the actual inventor was, and which city in California is the true home of the fortune cookie, has continued to be a matter of debate. Unequivocally not Chinese, the fortune cookie may in fact not even be Chinese American.”

Borgna Brunner

http://www.infoplease.com/spot/fortunecookies.html

What’s Your Fortune?